

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Where claims have been amended and/or canceled, such amendments and/or cancellations are done without prejudice and/or waiver and/or disclaimer to the claimed and/or disclosed subject matter, and Applicant the right to claim this subject matter and/or other disclosed subject matter in a continuing application or otherwise.

1. (currently amended) ~~A~~An improved trampoline mat capable of being attached to a trampoline frame using a plurality of coil springs, the mat comprising:

a flexible bed ~~comprising~~having an outer portion, ~~an inner portion, a first axis of symmetry and a second axis of symmetry, the first and second axes of symmetry intersecting each other substantially perpendicularly,~~ the outer portion being folded over and connected to ~~the~~an inner portion of the flexible bed ~~so as to define a channel extending around about the periphery of the flexible bed, the channel extending around the circumference of the flexible bed~~the flexible bed being substantially continuous along a line from a first selected location on the periphery to a second location on the periphery, the line intersecting both the first and second axes of symmetry;

a filament disposed within the channel, the filament configured and arranged to distribute a load to the bed, the filament extending ~~through the length of~~ the channel and meeting at opposite ends of the filament to form a loop; and

a plurality of notches formed in the bed to provide access to an interior of the channel, the notches being configured and arranged to expose a corresponding plurality of ~~corresponding~~ portions of the filament where the load is applied to the filament.
continuous

2. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 1, wherein the flexible bed ~~comprises~~has no stitching that bears a substantial portion of the load.

3. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 2, wherein the flexible bed ~~comprises~~has no grommet, elastomer or webbing that bears a substantial portion of the load.

4. (original) The trampoline mat of claim 1, wherein the connection between the inner portion and the outer portion defines a connected portion of the flexible bed, the connected portion consisting essentially of a single material.

5. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 4, wherein the single material ~~comprises~~ polypropylene.

6. (original) The trampoline mat of claim 1, wherein the outer portion is connected to the inner portion by ultrasonic welding.

7. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 1, wherein the outer portion is connected to the inner portion ~~using~~ with heat.

8. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 1, wherein the outer portion is connected to the inner portion ~~using~~ with an adhesive.

9. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 1, wherein the filament ~~comprises~~ is a metal cable.

10. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 1, wherein each portion of the filament exposed by the notches ~~comprises a v-shaped bend~~ forms a v-ring.

11. (original) The trampoline mat of claim 1, further comprising a sheath disposed in the channel around the filament.

12. (original) The trampoline mat of claim 1, wherein the ends of the filament are connected.

13. (original) The trampoline mat of claim 1, wherein the flexible bed in a folded position is substantially circular.

14. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 1, wherein ~~thesaid~~ outer portion is connected to ~~thesaid~~ inner portion using a stitch.

15. (currently amended) ~~AAn improved trampoline mat capable of being attached to a trampoline frame using a plurality of coil springs, the mat comprising:~~

a flexible bed ~~comprising~~having an outer portion, an inner portion, a first axis of symmetry and a second axis of symmetry, the first and second axes of symmetry intersecting each other substantially perpendicularly, the outer portion being folded over and connected to an inner portion of the flexible bed so as to define a channel ~~extending around about~~ at the periphery of the flexible bed, the flexible bed being substantially continuous along a line from a first selected location on the periphery to a second location on the periphery, the line intersecting both the first and second axes of symmetry;

a filament disposed within the channel, the filament being configured and arranged to distribute a load to the bed; and

a plurality of notches formed in the ~~folded portion of the bed~~ to provide access to an interior of the channel, the notches being configured and arranged to expose a corresponding plurality of ~~corresponding~~ portions of the filament where the load is applied to the filament; and

wherein the flexible bed comprises ~~has~~ no stitching that bears a substantial portion of the load.

16. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 15, wherein the flexible bed comprises ~~has~~ no grommet, elastomer or webbing that bears a substantial portion of the load.

17. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 15, wherein the outer portion and the inner portion ~~are~~ is connected ~~to the flexible bed~~ by ultrasonic welding.

18. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 15, wherein the outer portion is connected to the inner portion using ~~with~~ heat.

19. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 15, wherein the flexible bed ~~comprises~~ is constructed of a material having a plurality of fibers exposed at at least one edge, wherein substantially all the exposed fibers at the at least one edge are bonded to adjacent fibers.

20. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 19, wherein the adjacent fibers are bonded by one of an ultrasonic cutter, a plasma cutter, ~~and~~ by heat.

21. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 20, wherein substantially all the exposed fibers on substantially all the exposed edges ~~comprise~~ have adjacent fibers bonded.

22. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 15, wherein the filament ~~comprises~~ is a braided metal cable.

23. (original) The trampoline mat of claim 15, further comprising a sheath disposed in the channel around the filament.

24. (original) The trampoline mat of claim 15, wherein the ends of the filament are connected.

25. (currently amended) A trampoline ~~with an improved trampoline mat, the trampoline~~ comprising:

a trampoline frame;

a flexible bed ~~comprising~~ having a outer portion, an inner portion, a first axis of symmetry and a second axis of symmetry, the first and second axes of symmetry intersecting each other substantially perpendicularly, the outer portion being folded over and connected to ~~the~~ an inner portion of the flexible bed ~~by sonic welding so as to define a channel about the periphery of the flexible bed, the channel extending around the circumference of the flexible bed~~ the flexible bed being substantially continuous along a line from a first selected location on the periphery to a second location on the periphery, the line intersecting both the first and second axes of symmetry;

a filament disposed within the channel, the filament configured and arranged to distribute a load to the bed, the filament extending the length of the channel and ~~meeting~~connecting at opposite ends of the filament to form a loop;

wherein the flexible bed ~~comprises~~has no stitching that bears a substantial portion of the load;

a plurality of notches formed in the bed to provide access to an interior of the channel, the notches being configured and arranged to expose a corresponding plurality of ~~corresponding~~ portions of the filament where the load is applied to the filament; and

a plurality of coil springs, each spring comprising a first end and a second end, each spring being connected to the trampoline frame at the first~~one~~ end and to the exposed portions of the filament at the second~~other~~ end, the plurality of springs capable of resiliently supporting the trampoline mat above a surface.

26. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 25, wherein the flexible bed comprises no stitching that bears a substantial portion of the load~~the connection between the outer portion and the inner portion defines a connected portion of the flexible bed, the connected portion consisting essentially of a single material and a filler.~~

27. (original) The trampoline mat of claim 25, further comprising a sheath disposed in the channel around the filament.

28. (currently amended) The trampoline mat of claim 25, wherein the flexible bed comprises~~is~~ a substantially circular shape.

29. (withdrawn) A method for making an improved trampoline mat, the method comprising:

cutting a sheet of bed material to form a flexible bed having an inner portion, an intermediate portion, and an outer portion, the flexible bed being cut to a desired shape;

cutting a plurality of notches in the intermediate portion, the plurality of notches being spaced about the intermediate portion;

disposing a filament on the intermediate portion;

folding the outer portion over and connecting it to the inner portion to form a channel about the periphery of the flexible bed, the outer portion being folded over such that the intermediate portion is on the periphery of the bed and the filament is disposed within the channel,

wherein the folding also positions the notches such that they expose corresponding spaced portions of the filament; and connecting the filament to form a loop.

30. (withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the steps of disposing the filament and connecting the outer portion to the inner portion are performed simultaneously.

31. (withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the step of cutting the bed material comprises cutting the bed material with an ultrasonic cutter, a plasma cutter, or by heat.

32. (withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein cutting the bed material bonds substantially all adjacent exposed fibers at an edge of the cut bed material.